DEQ Montana Department of Environmental Quality

KRY Site Update

State Superfund **May 2016**

What's Been Happening at the KRY Site?

A major portion of work identified in the KRY site Record of Decision has been completed by BNSF Railway Company (BNSF), with oversite from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). In May 2015, DEQ approved the Long-Term Monitoring Plan, designed to monitor the performance of the cleanup, the onsite land treatment unit (LTU) and soil repository. As was done in previous years, groundwater was sampled in April and will be sampled again this fall. During the 2015 field season, irrigation and tilling was used to enhance the natural breakdown of pentachlorophenol (PCP) in the soil in the LTU. The soil cleanup level for PCP was met and the soil was permanently placed in the onsite soil repository. BNSF also prepared several work plans for DEQ approval that will be implemented in summer 2016 (see next section for more details).

Treated soils were excavated from the LTU into the on-site repository.

What's Coming Up at KRY Site?

BNSF will continue soil treatment at the PCP LTU, including irrigation of the soil during the warm, dry months of the year. On the eastern portion of the site, BNSF will remove the remaining petroleum product found in soil and floating on the groundwater in a small area beneath and next to the high pressured natural gas line. To avoid disturbing the gas line and to reduce the amount of clean overburden excavated, BNSF will excavate this thick petroleum product with large drilling augers. This work is scheduled to begin immediately after Memorial Day, with site preparation work taking place the week before.

A solar powered pump is used to remove petroleum product floating on the groundwater.

Currently, BNSF is using wells to monitor localized areas of petroleum product remaining on top of the groundwater on the western portion of the site. Solar powered pumps are in-use at two wells on the western portion of the site to remove petroleum product from the groundwater. The second phase of groundwater treatment will start in June, during high groundwater when this treatment is most effective. Known as in-situ chemical oxidation, this treatment involves the injection of activated sodium persulfate into the groundwater and the zone just above groundwater. The injections will target contamination hotspots and previously untreated areas.

This year DEQ will also work on putting in place institutional controls (ICs) at the site. ICs are administrative restrictions on the use of property that help mitigate risks to human health. Examples at this site include deed restrictions that prohibit residential use and building restrictions to limit excavation in the repository area and also in the sawdust area due to high methane concentrations in soil vapor. ICs help ensure protection of human health as the KRY site is used and potentially redeveloped in the future.

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Left: Tilling occurred on the land treatment unit at the KRY Site to enhance the breakdown of contamination in soils.

Right: A treatment solution is injected into the groundwater to help reduce contamination.

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